

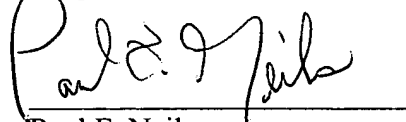
PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT  
National Stage Entry Appln. of PCT/FR03/00986

**REMARKS**

The foregoing amendments are made in order to remove multiple dependencies and avoid the Government surcharge, as well as make editorial changes to conform with U.S. Practice. The changes have not been made for reasons related to patentability.

Entry and consideration of this Amendment are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Paul F. Neils", is written over a horizontal line.

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**23373**

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